Melbourne Knights

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Contents

4 From the Moose's mouth: Vlado Vanis

7 Last week's match

8 Feature: Andrew Marth

20 Key Match-ups

27 Knights abroad

29 Player Profile: Martin John

Page 8

Page 29

Front cover: Adrian Cervinski on the attack with Canberra's Andy Rakic hot on his heals

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Disclaimer: the opinions expressed in this program do not necessarily reflect those of the Melbourne Knights Soccer Club.

From the Moose's Mouth

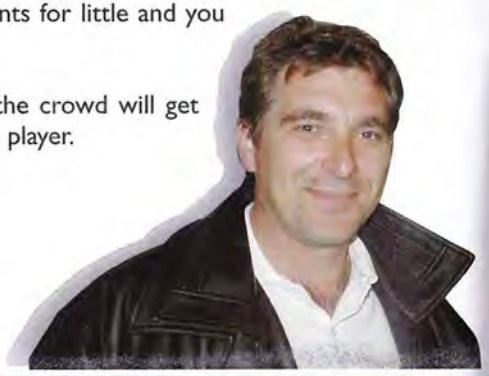
I think it is fair to say that last week we played a Wollongong side that outplayed us. They had a better day than we did and had eight shots on goal, scoring five in the process. It was one of those days where nothing went right for us, whilst Wollongong had everything going for them.

Not too much has to be said about today's match, we all know the importance of it. It is a tough game and we have not beaten South Melbourne for a long time. Typically in a derby game, ladder positioning counts for little and you never know what to expect.

Playing at Knights Stadium, I am confident that the crowd will get right behind us and bring us home as our twelfth player.

Coach

vlado vanis



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Knights news

Fish night on Saturday 10 March

Former Melbourne Knights President Steve Mandekic is spearheading a fund-raising dinner that is expected to raise more than $30,000 in funds for the Melbourne Knights.

The well known former president, who runs a successful auto business Racecourse Motors, is behind the latest venture (along with 10-15 other volunteers) to raise $30,000 from a 'Traditional Fish Night' to be held at the Melbourne Knights Social Club on Saturday March 10th.

At $100 per person, the tickets are not cheap. However, the value for money will be exceptional with an astonishing range of seafood delights being prepared to tantalise anyone's taste buds.

"We have also managed to secure sponsors for a quality range of wines, which means included in the price will be unlimited beer, wine and soft drinks," said Mandekic during the week.

Tickets for the Melbourne Knights' Fish Night can be obtained by ringing the Knights' office during business hours on (03) 9312 3584, or contacting the following persons: Steve Mandekic (0412) 327 941 or Steve Garma (0418) 381 626.

Proposed Knights Stadium gym

Current Board member John Setka, and Steve Djopa, a director of Melbourne based Cro-Pro Promotions, have embarked on a fund-raising campaign to raise more than $35,000 for a proposed modern gymnasium to be situated beneath the main grandstand at Knights Stadium.

According to Djopa, who is also the owner of Barkly Glass, the gym facilities, which would be used by both the Knights' playing personnel as well as the general public, could quite easily be open for business within 'a month or two if we raise the necessary capital'.

Setka, who is taking ownership of the project, is proposing offering a limited amount of initial 12-month memberships (100) to the public at $250 each, which would raise $25,000.

A substantial amount was raised at the Chevron Nightclub last Friday. Featuring Croatian Eurovision star Goran Karan, the gorgeous pop singer Minea and Vladimir K, the proceeds went towards funding the proposed gym and it was a huge success.

The gym, which is to be situated adjacent to the Club's Administration offices, has received offers of substantial donations from builders and other tradesmen in terms of materials and labour.

For more details regarding the Knights' gym project, contact John Setka via the Knights' office on (03) 9312 9584.

Horvat, Vukadin and Zelic on trial

Melbourne Knights trio Steve Horvat, Jason Vukadin and Ivan Zelic are all overseas in an attempt to secure contracts.

Vukadin and Zelic have jetted off to China to try their luck in the lucrative Chinese league, which is expected to draw a number of Australian players in the coming months.

Horvat on the other hand is in discussion with Dutch First Division side FC Utrecht. The loss of three defenders would leave a large chunk of responsibility on the likes of Rody Vargas, Sasa Ognenovski and Ransford Banini.

Super Sunday Concert

The Melbourne Knights are organising a concert this Sunday at the social club.

The concert features some of Croatia's biggest performers including, Vedran Ivcic, Sime Ivcic, Maja Blagdan and Tereza Kesovija.

Date: Sunday 25 February
Venue: Melbourne Knights Social Club
Time: 6pm
Cost: $20 (available at the door)

New Board members welcomed

The Melbourne Knights Soccer Club is pleased to announce the addition of two new committee members, both of whom are former committee members of the club.

Stan Bilic, owner of Bilic Homes and Steve Garma, the chief match steward for the past two years, have both rejoined the committee for season 2000/01.

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Around the Grounds

Well after a big year last year, Glenroy Split are happy to announce that after a reshuffle of the leagues it now finds itself in the more fancied Provisional Division One of the VSF. Almost the entire squad and coaching staff have stayed on at the club, and with the few additions to the squad in the off season, things are looking great at the club.

Pre-season is in full swing at the moment and there have been no holds barred in terms of getting the boys back in shape. From running laps around Albert Park Lake to a steady flow of practice games, Coach Marin Radobuljac has a grand plan of fitness for the squad.

The club is also in the process of finding a new ground and better facilities to be our home this year. Negotiations are in process with a few potential sights and we'll be sure to let you know of how these progress in the coming weeks.

Glenroy Split are also looking to be a little more pro-active off the field too. More functions have been planned for the year in order to cement the solid foundation that was prepared last year, with the fantastic showing of the side in the league competition and also in the Croatian soccer tournament. Functions like dances, soccer broadcast nights and the like are on the cards and we look forward to making them a permanent part of the Croatian social scene.

So on behalf of President Steve Sinkovic, Coach Marin Radobuljac, the committee and of course the players, I would like to thank you for taking the time to read this. And please, keep an eye out for more information on how you could not only see how the club is travelling, but also enjoy all our endeavors, either on or off the soccer field.

JUNIORS WANTED!

North Geelong Warriors SC is looking for JUNIORS aged 5-16 years to play soccer in season 2001.
Under's 7, 9, 11, 14, 16 North Geelong Warriors Soccer Club
Elcho Park, Gibbons Rd, in LARA.
(only 30 minutes from Knights Stadium)
For more info, contact Club Secretary Tonci on: 0402 012 716

CLUB LUNCHEON

Sunday March 4th, 2001
North Geelong SC Clubrooms
Elcho Park, LARA
3-course meal - only $10
Commencing 1pm
No need to make reservation, just turn up on the day. JUMPING CASTLE provided for the kids!

GIRL POWER ON THE PLAYING FIELD

Who says soccer is just for the boys! Tell that to these girls and the likelihood of you being 'hacked', 'slide tackled' or 'king-hit behind play' is better than Vlado Vanis' future as Melbourne Knights' coach being thrown into doubt after every big defeat.

North Geelong Warriors are the first women's side to commence training and it is hoped, that if enough players express an interest, and naturally show the appropriate level of commitment, North Geelong will field a women's team in this year's VSF competition.

It's not just the Warriors Geelong that has jumped on the bandwagon of the fastest growing team sport in Australia. National Soccer League club the Melbourne Knights is also entertaining plans of fielding a girl's team.

To be coordinated by the Club's Administrative Assistant Kaja Babic, the Knights hope to resurrect a women's team in season 2001, thus servicing the Croatian Community in the Western Suburbs. The Knights fielded a women's team, then coached by Ante Radic, in the mid 1990s.

Also in the West, Victorian Premier League outfit, St Albans Saints is also seeking interested female soccer players. According to the Club's website, "St Albans has already established an open age girls soccer team. However we are still looking for girls interested in playing between the ages of 12 and 16 for an under 17's team and an under 14's team".

Likewise, in the South-eastern region of Melbourne, the ambitious Chelsea Hajduk is also hoping to form a women's team. Basic pre-season training has started at all the above clubs, however the Team coordinators stress that more girls are needed at all clubs.

If you are between the ages of 15-30, are female and would like to play Women's soccer, contact the following Team Coordinators:
NORTH GEELONG WARRIORS: Ante Virkes 0407 894 094
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS: Kaja Babic (03) 9312 3584 or 0411 762 916
ST ALBANS SAINTS: Ivan (03) 9366 0072
CHELSEA HAJDUK: David 0410 523 795

JUNIORS COMMENCE TRAINING

The Chelsea Hajduk juniors have commenced training and we are looking for players from U/6 right through to U/18. Training for juniors is every Wednesday and Friday evening at 7pm.
For more information, contact club secretary Chris on 9803 6173.

SIX-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT

Date: Sunday 18 March
Venue: Chelsea Hajduk Soccer Club. HD Thomas Reserve. Edithvale Rd, Edithvale. (Map. 93 C9)
Time: Commencing 10am sharp.

GIRLS TEAM.

Chelsea's girls side will commence training at 7pm on Wednesday 28 February at HD Thomas Reserve. Edithvale Rd, Edithvale. (Map. 93 C9).
No experience required and interested girls are urged to attend. For more information call David on 0410 523 795.

SENIORS KICK OFF IN STATE LEAGUE CUP

The Chelsea senior squad will begin their State League Cup campaign against Cranbourne Comets this Sunday at 6pm. All matches will be played at Comets Reserve.
Frankston Pines, Cranbourne Comets and Seaford United make up the group.
Chelsea has appointed former Melbourne Croatia legend John Gardiner as their senior coach with Bruce Gardiner appointed reserves coach, replacing Fadil Muriqi and Vili Borovnjak respectively.

Last week's match

The Melbourne Knights succumbed to a rampant Wollongong Wolves who are in the sort of from that could see them repeat their title victory of last season.

The win was Wollongong's seventh straight and quite a convincing one in the end, beating the Knights 5-2.

Knights coach Vlado Vanis insisted that if he played with an NSL all-star squad, he would have been unable to knock off the Wolves.

Wollongong strikers Saso Petrovski and Stuart Young bagged doubles while Scott Chipperfield completed the scoring with a superb goal in the 75th minute.

Andrew Marth notched a 25th minute equaliser for the Knights before the hosts took control.

Striker Adrian Cervinski scored a consolation goal nine minutes from full-time.

It was always going to be a difficult match for the Knights, but with Steve Horvat and Jason Vukadin leaving for trials and Lubo Lapsansky withdrawing through injury, it made the job even tougher.

Wollongong Wolves	5 - 2	Melbourne Knights
S Young 17', 65'		*A Marth 24'*
S Petrovski 26', 60'		*A Cervinski 75'*
S Chipperfield 73'		
20 Grant Barlow (gk)		20 Lupce Acevski (gk)
2 George Souris		3 Rodrigo Vargas
3 Alvin Ceccoli		4 Sasa Ognenovski (13 Antun Kovacic 67')
6 Matthew Horsley (David Cervinski 86')		6 Joey Rajher
7 Paul Reid		9 Joel Porter (19 Anthony Pelikan 62')
9 Saso Petrovski		15 Ransford Banini
10 Stuart Young		16 Alex Kiratzoglou
11 Scott Chipperfield		18 Andy Vargas
15 David Huxley (4 Robert Stanton 74')		22 Toto Da Costa
17 Ben Blake		25 Adrian Cervinski
27 Robbie Middleby		26 Andrew Marth

Referee: Brett Hugo

Cautions

M Horsley 76'

S Ognenovski 44'
A Vargas 58'
A Kovacic 86'

TEAM STATS

Melbourne Knights	HEAD TO HEAD	Perth Glory
5	Goals	2
9	Goal Attempts	5
6	Attempts on Target	4
0	Attempts Blocked	0
0	Attempts Against Woodwork	0
5	Corners	4
7	Total Crosses	6
2	Successful Crosses	1
7	Fouls Conceded	4
0	Offsides	2
1	Yellow Cards	3
0	Red Cards	0

SPORTS mart

Andrew Marth: Return of the real derby

By David Davutovic

Andrew 'Stabber' Marth goes back ten years to rate his most memorable derby, back in the 1990/91 grand final. Marth opened the scoring in the 25th minute, and the Melbourne Knights (Croatia) had the game won. But Joe Palatsides popped up to score an 88th minute equaliser and send the game into extra time.

No goals in extra time so a penalty shoot-out would decide the NSL champion. The Knights blew a three goal lead in the shoot-out to eventually lose to South's in an epic final.

This is just one of a number of memorable derbies between South Melbourne and Melbourne Knights. 'Stabber' is just glad to be a part of it all again.

David Davutovic tackled 'Stabber' for an exclusive one on one interview in preparation for the big match.

Andrew Marth could be spearheading the Knights into their first finals campaign for 4 years.

DD: ***The Knights have been travelling nicely over the past month, what do you put the success down to?***

AM: I think it's just basically everyone is getting used to playing with each other. We haven't been playing the best to be honest, but we've been getting results. Last week's performance was probably the worst I've been involved with this season.

DD: ***Are you happy with your own form?***

AM: I think I am playing quite well, scoring a few goals here and there and I've got no problems, I am quite happy.

DD: ***Where did it go wrong against the Wolves?***

AM: I think our work rate was well below par and it obviously showed on the scoreline. Full credit to Wollongong, they've got 10 players on the field that just work flat-out for 90 minutes. They haven't got any superstars, but they've got a hard working team.

DD: ***Are you happy to be back at the Knight playing in a traditional derby? The Carlton and South Melbourne derbies really lacked the passion and tradition.***

AM: Obviously it's a long-standing relationship between the two teams. There has always been a lot of animosity between the two teams, and tonight won't be any different. South Melbourne is travelling very well, them and Wollongong would be the benchmarks of the competition at the moment, so we're up against it again, but I think we're quite confident.

DD: ***South Melbourne is in great form at the moment, but Mike Petersen used the old cliché, form doesn't count for much coming into a derby. Do you agree?***

AM: Well a 6-1 win is a huge win obviously, but nobody likes coming to Somers St and playing the Knights, no matter what team. If you ask any player in the NSL, the one park they would not like to play at is Somers St. Derbies are derbies and anything can happen so I would have to totally agree with Mike Petersen saying that.

DD: ***What's your most memorable derby?***

AM: It would have to be when we lost on penalties in the 1990/91 grand final, I was only young and I scored the first goal in that game. We were so confident, we were 1-0 up, and we had 5 minutes left and even in penalties we were 3 penalties up and we still lost and you just never forget things like that. I suppose missing one of the penalties doesn't help. So it was memorable for all the wrong reasons I guess.

DD: ***How confident are you personally and also the squad?***

AM: I am confident if the whole ten or eleven players give 100%. It's all you can basically ask from them. It's eleven versus eleven on the park, and with total commitment, composure and work rate, I think we're as good as any team in Australia at the present moment. But if you get 4-5 players that don't want to work, you're up against it.

DD: ***What's the key to tonight's game?***

AM: I really rate (Andy) Vlahos and (Goran) Lozanovski out wide for them, but we've got Alex (Kiratzoglou) and Joel Porter doing very well for us. So I think those two positions are very crucial, as you know a lot of goals come from the wings with the crosses, so that's where I think it will be won.

DD: ***How important is tonight's game in the structure of the finals and the Knights' chances of making it.***

AM: Psychologically it's very important because if you get in the finals you want to go as far as possible and if we get smashed again this week, we'll know we've got virtually no chance of winning the grand final. And we also have to see how far we are away from them so we have to put on a good show

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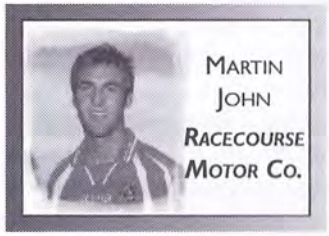

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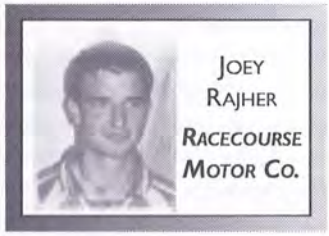

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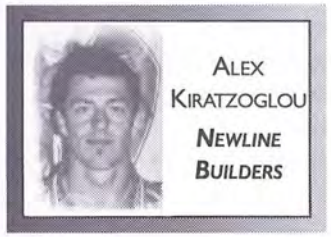

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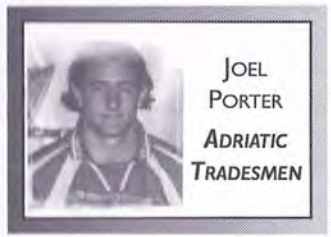

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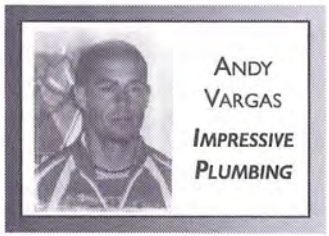

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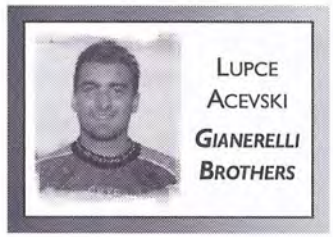

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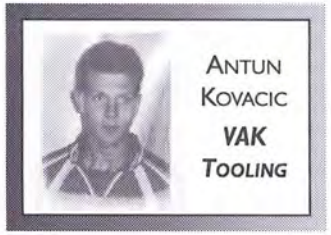

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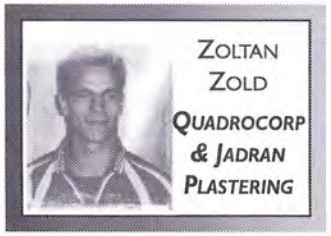

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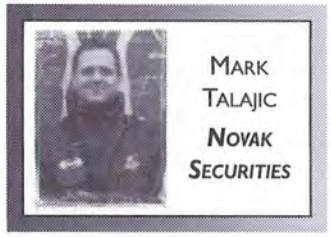

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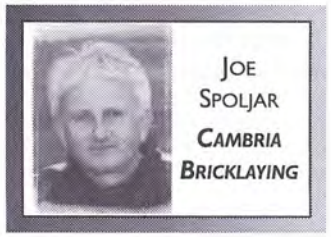

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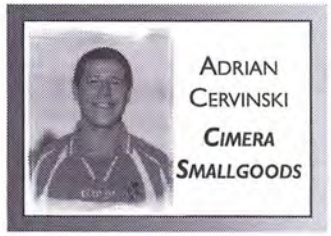

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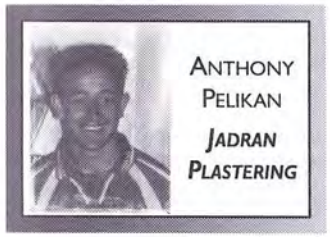

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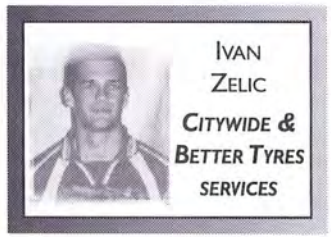

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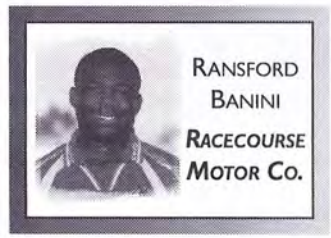

Ransford Banini
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Opposition Focus By Lance Jenkinson

Goran Lozanovski will play his 200th NSL game today.

At this stage of the season, South Melbourne can be considered the Manchester United of the National Soccer League. They sit outright top of the table, five points clear of Sydney Olympic.

They easily boast the best defensive record in the competition with a miserly 10 goals conceded and their lethal attack is ranked second with 36 goals.

What makes South Melbourne's attack so devastating is the amount of scoring options available. They've had ten goalscorers to date. Striker Andy Vlahos leads the way with seven goals, Paul Trimboli has six and Vaughan Coveny's chipped in with five. John Anastasiadis and Goran Lozanovski can't even manage a place in the starting line up.

South can turn defence into attack within the blink of an eye. Their counter attacking play is deadly for opposition teams. Trimboli will lead the hard running midfield with Steve Panopoulos, David Clarkson and former Knight Zelkjo Susa. Susa has had a huge influence on South's rise to the top of the ladder. Expect to see a couple of counter attacking goals tonight, if the Knights are caught napping in the midfield.

Zeljko Susa, arguably South's best player this season, is out through injury

The recruiting drive didn't stop at Susa. Durakovic, was lured from Eastern Pride, the former Socceroo defender has been South Melbourne's best player to date and is nearing 300 NSL matches. Michael Petkovic has returned home from France to take the number one goalkeepers position from Chris Jones. Livewire striker Con Boutsianis made his way to Bob Jane Stadium from Perth via England, where he had a short stint with Bolton Wanderers. Former Glory teammate Vas Kalogeracos and Vlahos join him in attack. More recently, Simon Colosimo was signed from Carlton Soccer Club and is another struggling to win a regular place in the starting eleven.

This is a team with the credentials to go all the way in season 2000-01. Their experience will be a key factor as they head into a finals campaign.

Mike Petersen - NSL coaching career

Mike Petersen has had a brilliant debut season in the NSL.

Matches: 17
Clubs: South Melbourne
Record: *11 wins, 5 draws, 1 loss*

Mike Petersen was born and raised in Melbourne and came through the Port Melbourne junior ranks.

He played 270 games and scored 18 goals in the NSL between 1983 and 1997. His NSL career included stints with Heidelberg, Brunswick and South Melbourne.

Petersen also had a stint with Ajax in the 1985-86 season. His credentials also include 51 games and 3 goals for Australia, between 1988 and 1992.

Petersen was assistant coach to Angie Postecoglou in 1997/98 when South Melbourne won the championship. He also coached St Albans in the Victorian Premier league in 2000 before joining South for his debut NSL season.

Today's match By David Davutovic

SOUTH MELBOURNE

Who's hot?

Con Boutsianis – He is always a problem for the Knights, but last week's hat-trick couldn't have come at a worse time for the home side. He will have to be closely checked, whilst the Knights will also have to be careful not to give away too many free kicks outside the penalty area.

Mehmet Durakovic – The veteran has not yet missed a game this season, and with South Melbourne only conceding 10 goals, he has been the key defensive player. He has silenced many doubters who predicted that he was well past his best, but his goal-line clearances this season indicate that he hasn't lost any of his old zest.

Mehmet Durakovic hasn't missed a game all season

Who's not?

Simon Colosimo – The talented utility has struggled to win a regular place in the South Melbourne squad, although Mike Petersen would classify it as a healthy problem to have. Colosimo will be hoping to head overseas in the near future, but he might struggle to draw attention to himself if his current form continues.

The final word – Mike Petersen

"Derbies are derbies and you can throw the form guide out the window a lot of the time. We know we have to be hard at it and that the Knights are always competitive, regardless of their ladder positioning. In other words, we have a healthy respect for the Knights group.

All I am really concerned about is that we play to our capabilities today. I am pretty big on team orientated things, so I don't think the game will be won and lost in any particular department of the ground.

I would have to say that the Knights have matured as a group as the season has gone on. They are in the top six now and I think they've gelled as a team. In particular we have to watch their forward line there are a couple of boys up front at the moment that can pose problems for us. Marth is always a headache and his inclusion in the squad has binded the Knights and we've got to pay attention to him."

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

Who's hot?

Adrian Cervinski – This is another player who has played a countless number of derby matches. He has scored six goals in his last five outings and he is arguably the in-form striker in the NSL. Cervinski's skill and predatory instincts have seen him rediscover his old form and he is the danger man for South Melbourne's defence.

Andrew Marth – South Melbourne coach Mike Petersen describes him as a "headache". 'Stabber' is another player who has rediscovered his goalscoring touch, yet his influence comes from the middle of the park. Marth is a true leader and he is a player who can inspire his team to victory on any given day.

Adrian Cervinksi is the Knights' danger man in attack

Who's not?

Melbourne Knights crowd – For a team that's positioned in the top six, the Knights crowd have not only been disappointing in number but in voice also. If ever a team needs the support of the crowd it is today. Today's game deserves a crowd of at least 9-10 thousand, but will we get it? It remains to be seen.

The final word – Vlado Vanis

"This is a very important match for us in the context of the finals and I would expect our boys to be hard at South melbourne from the opening whistle. The midfield will be very important for both sides, but South Melbourne have to respected in all departments of the field. I think the crowd will also play a key part in today's match."

Youth League Profile

Name:	*Ivan Gelemanovic*
D-O-B:	*18/05/82*
School:	*Emmaus College*
Occupation:	*Soccer player*
Playing Position:	*Defence*
	Midfield
Started playing:	*Age 9*
Previous Clubs:	*Chelsea Hajduk*
Achievements:	*Croatian Tour 2000 - 4th place*
	Schooling - making the Victorian Team
Most Admired NSL Player:	*Andy Vargas*
Most Admired overseas player:	*Marc Overmars*
Favorite Overseas Club:	*Arsenal FC*
Favorite Food:	*Sarma*
Favorite Drink:	*Solo*
Favorite TV Show:	*The Simpsons*
Favorite Movie:	*Pulp Fiction*
	Lock Stock and two Smoking Barrels
Favorite Music:	*Alternative*
Favorite Band:	*Live*
Hobbies:	*Golf, music, TV*
Ambition:	*To play NSL*
Major Influences:	*My family and friends*

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Tony Adams	$22	Jim Smith – Derby County Manager	$50
History of Australia's NSL	$10		
NSL Media Guide 2000	$20	*All Credit Cards, Cheques & Money Orders accepted.*	
Perth Glory Year Book 2000	$13	*Add $8 for Postage & Packaging anywhere in Australia*	

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National Youth League

By Luciano Trani

The Melbourne Knights Youth Development program is now into its second season and I'm happy to say it has achieved results beyond our expectations. The Melbourne Knights Youth Development program includes: YOUTH/ACADEMY, DEVELOPMENT SQUAD and U13 U14 U15 U16.

Boys from the ages of 13 to 16 are striving to be apart of our Development Squad, which in turn are feeding our Academy/Youth Squads and hopefully making it to the top of the program, the SENIOR SQUAD.

There are some ideas taking place regarding our U10's to U12's teams and we will be informing you of those plans in the next edition. We will be looking at all avenues to improve and fine tune our program for the future.

Our Youth Development Program is run by four coaches : Luciano Trani (Youth), Alvaro Salvo (Academy), Robert Krajacic (Development), Ivan Istuk (Technical Director, as well as assisting all coaches).

I am happy to say that our two teams in the National Youth League are doing very well. Our Youth team has played 14 games for 11 wins, 3 losses and no draws, which puts us in 3rd position on the league ladder behind Eastern Pride, who has played 2 games more, and South Melbourne with 1 game more.

Our Academy Squad is currently in 6th position with 15 games, 7 wins, 1 draw and 7 losses. Recently 5 Youth players were given an opportunity to train with the SENIOR SQUAD on a rotation basis.

We are now into the second part of our NYL season and we will be striving to achieve better results in this half, as well as looking at introducing some of the Development Squad boys into the Youth training program, which will hopefully put them in a better position for the upcoming season.

Our Youth/Academy/Development Squads and their sponsors can be viewed on the Melbourne Knights web site at www.melbourneknights.com.au.

Southern Division 2000-01 ~ Round Seventeen

Melbourne Knights Academy 1 (Sam Kalakis)
South Melbourne Eagles Academy 0

Peninsula Blues 3
(Mark Elvin, carlo Malina, Nick Waite)
Preston Lions 1 (Vasko Ristovski)

Eastern Pride 6
(Tony Pardo, Leo Trebbia, Matt McDermott, Denis Mustac, Ross Duckworth, Simon Webster)
Albury Wodonga 0

VIS 1 (Brendan Beni)
Green Gully 1 (Dean Vasic)

Albury Wodonga BYE

Leading Goalscorers
Southern Division

19 goals:	Steve Manceski (South Melbourne)
13 goals:	Nick Waite (Carlton Peninsula Blues)
12 goals:	Denis Mustac (Eastern Pride)
9 goals:	Viktor Memeti (South Dandenong)
	Brett Cunningham (Fawkner Blues)
8 goals:	Daniel Debevc (Whittlesea Stallions)
	Arif ElDib (South Melbourne)
	Josip Loncaric (Melbourne Knights)
	Robert Korkarevski (Sth Dandenong)

NB This list includes goals scored for and against Carlton/Whittlesea Stallion

National Youth League Ladder

	TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	**Eastern Pride**	16	13	1	2	+43	40
2	**South Melbourne Inst**	14	12	0	2	+55	36
3	**Melbourne Knights**	14	11	0	3	+26	33
4	**Peninsula Blues**	15	10	0	5	+23	30
5	**VIS**	17	8	3	6	+5	27
6	Melbourne Knights Academy	15	7	1	7	-5	22
7	South Dandenong	13	6	2	5	-1	20
8	South Melbourne Eagles Ac	14	6	1	7	-5	19
9	Green Gully Cavaliers	15	3	4	8	-13	13
10	Albury Wodonga Warriors	15	3	3	9	-26	12
11	Bulleen Zebras	15	2	4	9	-18	10
12	Fawkner Blues	14	3	1	10	-25	10
12	Preston Lions	15	2	0	13	-59	6

Carlton/Whittlesea Stallions withdrawn from league

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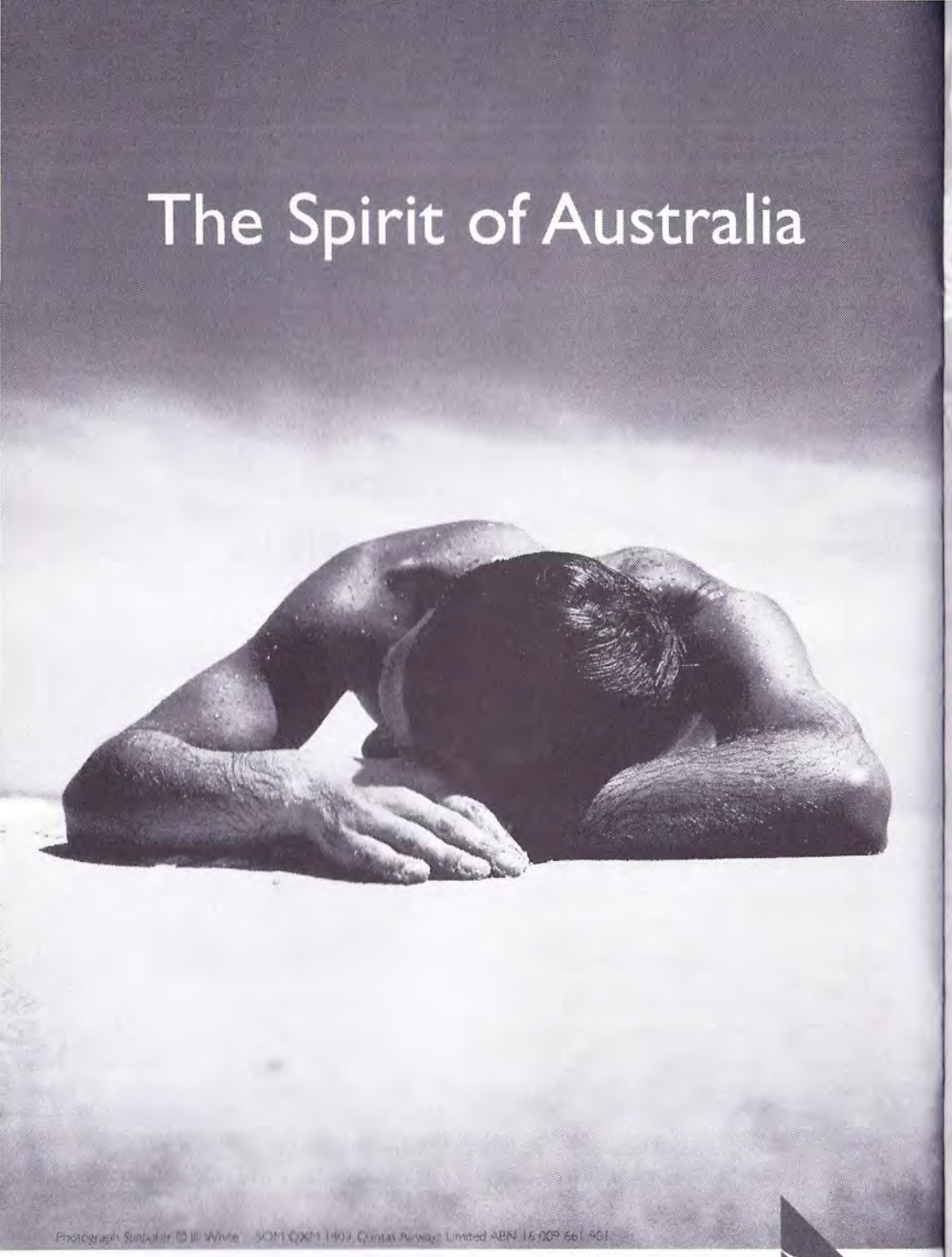

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Key match-ups By David Davutovic

CAREER

Pos: Midfield	Pos: Midfield
Age: 32	Age: 35
Matches: 332	Matches: 287
Goals: 59	Goals: 16

THIS SEASON

Matches: 15	Matches: 17
Goals: 6	Goals: 0

ANDREW MARTH V DAVID CLARKSON

Andrew Marth and David Clarkson are two of the NSL's veterans, yet they remain two of the most influential players in the league. Marth is more noticeable in the midfield with his rugged style of play, tough tackling and aerial supremacy. Clarkson is a typical running midfielder who does the nitty-gritty work and rarely receives the recognition he deserves. He has been well complimented by the elegant Zeljko Susa and Steve Panapoulos, who are more creative in an attacking sense. Marth has scored four goals for the Knights since returning from Carlton, and his presence will be all the more important with the finals approaching. Neither of these two will back out of a challenge and it will be a great battle to watch in the heart of the midfield.

CAREER

Joel Porter	Con Boutsianis
Pos: Midfielder/Striker	Pos: Midfielder/Striker
Age: 22	Age: 29
Matches: 38	Matches: 228
Goals: 10	Goals: 85

THIS SEASON

Matches: 18	Matches: 16
Goals: 7	Goals: 6

JOEL PORTER V CON BOUTSIANIS

Joel Porter has been a revelation for the Knights this season. His goal return exceeds a goal every three matches, which is a respectable tally for an experienced striker let-alone a striker playing his second NSL season. He has also amassed countless assists earned three penalties, all of which have gone largely unnoticed. Con Boutsianis has been his usual stylish self, and his hat-trick last week has taken his goal tally to six in fifteen matches. Boutsianis has been a constant menace to the Knights, whether it was for Souths, Perth Glory or even the former Collingwood Warriors. The two are key linking players between their respective midfields and forward lines and both can turn a game in a matter of seconds, Porter with his blistering runs from deep, and Boutsianis with his deadly set pieces.

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Welcome Aboard in Season 2000/01

Fixtures & Results

Round 1 - Saturday, October 14
Brisbane Strikers 1 (Grierson 58')
Melbourne Knights 2 (A.Vargas 41', Sulemani 69')
Suncorp Metway Stadium. Crowd: 2,349

Round 2 - Sunday, October 22
Melbourne Knights 2 (Kiratzoglou 44', Porter 55')
Parramatta Power 1 (Griffiths 75' pen)
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 5,980

Round 3 - Saturday, October 28
Canberra Cosmos 3 (Hagger 52', Scott 63', Castro 77')
Melbourne Knights 0
Bruce Stadium. Crowd: 1,550

Round 4 - Sunday, November 5
Melbourne Knights 1 (Da Costa 79')
Wollongong Wolves 2 (Horsely 41', Reid 42')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,863

Round 5 - Sunday, November 12
South Melbourne 4
(Trimboli 14' pen, 32' pen, Panapoulos 49', Boutsianis 60')
Melbourne Knights 1 (Da Costa 85')
Bob Jane Stadium. Crowd: 10.623

Round 6 - Sunday, November 19
Melbourne Knights 4
(A.Vargas 13', Da Costa 25', Porter 50', Kiratzoglou 65')
Sydney United 0
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 5,180

Round 7 - Sunday, November 26
Sydney Olympic 1 (Goutzioulis 93')
Melbourne Knights 0
Belmore Sports Ground. Crowd: 6,182

Round 8 - Sunday, December 3
Melbourne Knights 2 (Cervinski 54', A.Vargas 93')
Eastern Pride 1 (Magdic O.G. 51')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,178

Round 9 - Friday, December 8
Kingz FC 2 (Burton 84', Rufer 88')
Melbourne Knights 2 (Kiratzoglou 33', Cervinski 89')
Ericsson Stadium. Crowd: 5,559

Round 10 - Sunday, December 17
Melbourne Knights 1 (Porter 65')
Northern Spirit 1 (Burgess 48')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,320

Round 11 - Friday, December 22
Adelaide City Force 3
(Vidmar 5', Tunbridge 17', Pantelis 83')
Melbourne Knights 2 (Marth 43' pen, Porter 75')
Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 3,930

Round 12 - Sunday, December 30
Melbourne Knights 1 (Da Costa 17')
Perth Glory 1 (Milicevic 13')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,871

Round 13
Melbourne Knights vs. BYE

Round 14 - Sunday, January 14
Melbourne Knights 1 (Porter 38')
Marconi Stallions 4
(Thompson 51', 67', Care 72', Brownlie 80')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,287

Round 15 - Friday, January 19
Newcastle United 1 (Buonavoglia 61')
Melbourne Knights 5 (Da Costa 1', 14', Porter 8', Marth 47', Cervinski 84')
Marathon Stadium. Crowd: 6,875

Round 16 - Sunday, January 28
Melbourne Knights 2 (Marth 57' pen, Cervinski 77')
Brisbane Strikers 1 (Harris 59')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,728

Round 17 - Friday, February 2
Parramatta Power 1 (Blagojevic 85')
Melbourne Knights 3 (Cervinski 1', 68', 86')
Parramatta Stadium. Crowd: 2,475

Round 18 - Sunday, February 11
Melbourne Knights 2 (Da Costa 16', Porter 65')
Canberra Cosmos 0
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,098

Round 19 - Saturday, February 17
Wollongong Wolves 5
(S Young 17', 65', S Petrovski 26', 60', S Chipperfield 73')
Melbourne Knights 2 (A Marth 24', A Cervinski 75')
WIN Stadium. Crowd: 5,459

Round 20 - Friday, February 23 7.30pm
Melbourne Knights
South Melbourne
Knights Stadium.

Round 21 - Sunday, March 4 4pm
Sydney United
Melbourne Knights
Sydney United Sports Centre.

Round 22 - Sunday, March 11 6pm
Melbourne Knights
Sydney Olympic
Knights Stadium.

Round 23 - Saturday, March 17 7pm
Eastern Pride
Melbourne Knights
Mobil Park.

Round 24 - Sunday, March 25 6pm
Melbourne Knights
Kingz FC
Knights Stadium.

Round 25 - Friday, March 30 7.30pm
Northern Spirit
Melbourne Knights
Nth Sydney Oval.

Round 26 - Sunday, April 8 6pm
Melbourne Knights
Adelaide City Force
Knights Stadium.

Round 27 - Saturday, April 14 7pm
Perth Glory
Melbourne Knights
Perth Oval.

Round 28
Melbourne Knights v BYE

Round 29 - Wednesday, April 25 7pm
Marconi Stallions
Melbourne Knights
Marconi Stadium.

Round 30 - Sunday, April 29 3pm
Melbourne Knights
Newcastle United
Knights Stadium.

Who said that???

"Our work rate was well below par and it obviously showed on the scoreline."
- Knights skipper Andrew Marth on last week's 5-2 loss to the Wolves.

"If I made a selection from all the players in the NSL I would have still lost that game."
- Vlado Vanis paying tribute to a dominant Wollongong side last week.

"Full credit to Wollongong, they've got 10 players on the field that just work flat-out for 90 minutes. They haven't got any superstars, but they've have got a hard working team."
- Marth on Wollongong's relentless work rate.

"The return of (Lubo) Lapsansky, (Steve) Horvat and (Andrew) Marth adds a bit to this derby. They're big game players, all of them and although Horvat probably won't be available, it certainly adds something extra to today's game."
- South Melbourne coach Mike Petersen on the importance of today's game.

"We need the crowd to get behind us today, and be our twelfth player."
- Vanis urging the Knights faithful to be in full voice for today's blockbuster.

"There's obviously been a lot of animosity between the two teams and tonight won't be any different."
- Marth describing today's derby.

``In my opinion we will be seeing the two best leaders in Australian soccer going up against each other in this match, Andrew Marth (Knights) and Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)."
- Knights team manager John Sigur paying tribute to 'Stabber' and 'Trimmers'.

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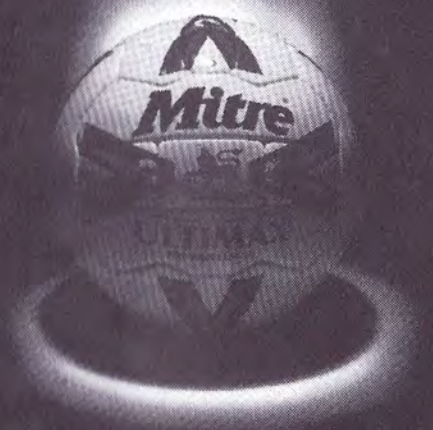

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Review - Round 19

Kingz FC 1 (J Campbell 49')
Northern Spirit 2 (B Burgess 2', 60')
Venue: Ericsson Stadium
Crowd: 5,988

Canberra Cosmos 1 (A Castro 50')
Brisbane Strikers 1 (P Dwyer 88')
Venue: Bruce Stadium
Crowd: 1,893

Wollongong Wolves 5 (S Young 17', 65', S Petrovski 26', 60', S Chipperfield 73')
Melbourne Knights 2
(A Marth 24', A Cervinski 75')
Venue: WIN Stadium
Crowd: 5,459

Eastern Pride (J Hutchinson 34')
Adelaide City Force 2
(S Tunbridge 7', C Pelosi 91')
Venue: Mobile Park
Crowd: 2,082

Parramatta Power 1
(M Santalab 58')
Newcastle United 1
(D McBreen 86')
Venue: Parramatta Stadium
Crowd: 2,565

South Melbourne 6
(C Boutsianis 7', 69', 90', B Farah (og) 32', P Trimboli 33', V Coveny 66')
Marconi Stallions 1
(S Radulovic 60')
Venue: Bob Jane Stadium
Crowd: 6,321

Sydney Olympic 3
(G Goutzioulis 50', S Baillie 64', A Doumanis 84')
Perth Glory 3
(A Edwards 54', B Despotovski 62', D Mori 65')
Venue: Belmore Sports Ground
Crowd: 8,669

NSL Ladder

	TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	**South Melbourne**	19	11	5	1	+31	44
2	**Wollongong Wolves**	17	9	4	2	+19	37
3	**Sydney Olympic**	19	10	4	4	+14	37
4	**Perth Glory**	19	9	6	3	+24	36
5	**Marconi Stallions**	19	8	5	5	+4	32
6	**Melbourne Knights**	19	8	3	7	+4	30
7	Sydney United	19	6	5	6	-3	29
8	Parramatta Power	19	7	2	9	-1	26
9	Adelaide City Force	18	7	2	8	-4	26
10	Northern Spirit	18	5	4	8	0	22
11	Canberra Cosmos	19	4	4	9	-2	22
12	Kingz FC	19	5	4	9	-4	22
13	Brisbane Strikers	19	4	6	8	-3	21
14	Newcastle United	19	3	8	7	-13	20
15	Eastern Pride	19	2	4	12	-11	13

Leading Goalscorers:

Damian Mori (*Perth Glory*)	13	Archie Thompson (*Marconi*)	10
Ben Burgess (*Northern Spirit*)	11	Scott Chipperfield (*W'gong Wolves*)	9
Bobby Despotovski (*Perth Glory*)	11	Joe Miller (*Parramatta Power*)	9

Knights Abroad

- In the FA Cup fifth round, Socceroo **DANNY TIATTO** played a full game, and had a hand in both goals, as Manchester City was eliminated, losing 4-2 away to Liverpool. Tiatto has continued on his brilliant form which ranks him amongst City's best.

- **MARK VIDUKA** played a full game, national team-mate Harry Kewell came off the bench in the 54th minute as Leeds United beat Anderlecht 2-1 at home in the second stage of the European Champions League Group D.

- Former North Geelong midfielder and Socceroo **JOSIP SKOKO** played a full game, as Racing Genk lost 2-1 away to Charleroi.

- **JOE SPITERI** played a full match, as Lierse drew 0-0 away with Antwerp. Spiteri has fought his way back into the starting line up after a series of injuries had sidelined him for a large part of the season.

- Goalkeeper **JOEY DIDULICA** is slowly making his mark in the Dutch First Division. He remained on the bench, as Ajax beat Fortuna Sittard 3-0 away from home.

- **JOSIP SIMUNIC** played a full game, as Hertha Berlin beat Stuttgart 1-0 away from home. Simunic is another who is making his mark in Europe's big leagues after shaking off injuries.

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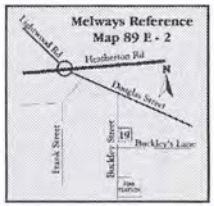

WANTED

Melbourne Knights Women's Team is looking for experienced coaching staff. Interested persons please fax your resume to 9312 3703.

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COVERAGE FROM 5PM - 8PM

Player Profile

Name:	*Martin John*
Nickname:	*Marty*
D-O-B:	*23/05/80*
Star sign:	*Gemini*
City of birth:	*Melbourne*
Ethnic Origin:	*German/Italian*
Occupation:	*Soccer player*
Marital status:	*Single*
Height:	*185cm*
Weight:	*82kg*
Brand soccer boot worn:	*Any*
Clubs played for:	*Melbourne Knights, VIS*
Career highlight to date:	*Aus U17, First game in National League*
Favourite actor:	*Adam Sandler*
Favourite Comedian:	*Jerry Seinfeld*
Favourite TV Personality:	*Les Murray*
Favorite TV show:	*Friends*
Favorite cartoon character:	*Bugs Bunny*
Favourite magazine:	*Soccer Australia*
Favourite food:	*Pasta, Pizza*
Favourite drink (non-alcoholic):	*Coke, Lift*
Favourite drink (alcoholic):	*Contreau and Lemonade*
Favourite overseas player:	*Harry Kewl*
Favourite overseas team:	*Parma, Leeds*
Most admired Australian (local):	*Ivan Kelic*
Most admired Australian (OS):	*Joey Didulica*
Most admired coach:	*Joe Boscic*
Most admired Sportsperson:	*Michael Jordan*
Major influences:	*Coaches and Family*
Words of advice:	*Train hard to be the best!*

Melbourne Knights 2000/01

Top: Daniel Vasilevski, Lubo Lapsansky, Anthony Pelikan, Ivan Jolic, Joel Porter, Ransford Banini, Xhezair Sulemani, Adrian Cervinski

Middle: Ivan Zelic, Zoltan Zold, Sasa Ognenovski, Lupce Acevski, Robert Graskoski, Martin John, Andrew Marth, Steve Horvat, Antun Kovacic

Front: Toto Da Costa, Joey Rajher, Jason Vukadin, Paul Magdic, Andy Vargas, Rodrigo Vargas, Alex Kiratzoglou, Dragi Nastevski

Absent: Ivan Razov

Autographs

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DB-U2283

HIA MEMBER

Coach	Vlado VANIS
1	Martin JOHN
2	Daniel VASILEVSKI
3	Rodrigo VARGAS
4	Sasa OGNENOVSKI
5	Jason VUKADIN
6	Joey RAJHER
7	Josip KOZIC
8	Dragi NASTEVSKI
9	Joel PORTER
10	Ivan ZELIC
11	Xhezair SULEMANI
13	Antun KOVACIC
14	Paul MAGDIC
15	Ransford BANINI
16	Alex KIRATZOGLOU
17	Ivan RAZOV
18	Andy VARGAS
19	Anthony PELIKAN
20	Lupce ACEVSKI
21	Zoltan ZOLD
22	Toto Da COSTA
23	Steve HORVAT
25	Adrian CERVINSKI
26	Andrew MARTH (C)
27	Ivan JOLIC
28	Lubo LAPSANSKY
29	Robert GRASKOSKI

Coach	Mike PETERSEN
1	Michael PETKOVIC *
2	Steve IOSIFIDIS * S
3	Fausto DE AMICIS *
4	Mehmet DURAKOVIC *
5	Robert LIPAROTI
6	David CLARKSON * S
7	Steve PANOPOULOS *
8	Vaughan COVENY *
9	Paul TRIMBOLI *
10	Con BOUTSIANIS *
11	John ANASTASIADIS S
12	Richie ALAGICH
13	Andy VLAHOS *
14	Vas KALOGERAKOS
15	Goran LOZANOVSKI * S
16	Zeljko SUSA
17	Rade CULIBRK
18	Elias DEMOURTZIDIS
19	Patrick KISNORBO
20	Chris JONES
21	Massimo MURDOCCA
22	Steve ESPOSITO
23	Michael THEOKLITOS
24	Nick TOLIOS S
25	Simon COLOSIMO S

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